



32692

Customer Number

RECEIVED  
DEC 31 2003  
TC 1700

Patent  
Case No.: 56336US002

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

First Named Inventor: HOPCUS, ERNEST A.  
Application No.: 10/036993      Group Art Unit: 1772  
Filed: December 31, 2001      Examiner: Jane J. Rhee  
Title: REMOVABLE CORE FOR PRE-STRETCHED TUBE

---

**INTERVIEW SUMMARY**

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

<u>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING</u>	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on:	
<u>12-18-03</u> Date	<u>[Signature]</u> Signed by: Tom Sanders

On December 9, 2003 a telephonic interview was conducted between Applicants' Attorney, Melanie Gover, Examiner Jane R. Rhee, and Primary Examiner Sondra Nolan regarding the pending application, and in particular the final Office Action having a mailing date of September 24, 2003. The independent claims, specifically claim 1, were discussed. Prior art reference U.S. 5,589,667 (Tsukasaki) was discussed. Applicants' attorney discussed removing the term "extruded" from the independent claims and adding language that better described the difference between the core structures of Tsukasaki, which are formed by interlocking the edges of a flat sheet of material, and the core structure of the present invention, which is extruded as a cylinder. No agreement was reached regarding suitable language.

Please charge Deposit Account 13-3723 any amounts due and owing by reason of this interview summary. For further questions, please contact Applicant's attorney who may be reached at telephone number (512) 984-4308.

Respectfully submitted,

December 18, 2003

Date

By: Melanie Gover

Melanie G. Gover, Reg. No.: 41,793

Telephone No.: (512) 984-4308

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel  
3M Innovative Properties Company  
Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833